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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

IVAN CLAEYS ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/030140 :

FILED: JANUARY 28, 2002 :

FOR: THERMOPLASTIC ALIPHATIC
POLYESTER COMPOSITIONS,
PREPARATION METHOD AND
USES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

A' 3. (Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, characterized in that they have a hardening behavior under elongation in the molten state characterized by an exponential increase in elongational viscosity according to time.

4. (Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, characterized in that they comprise a thermoplastic aliphatic polyester of which the mean molecular mass in number, measured by gel permeation chromatography, is in excess of or equal to 10,000 g/mole.